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Patent Claims

1. Method for the drainage of laundry, the laundry being spun in a drum (11) capable of being driven in rotation, and, at the same time, the liquid contained in the laundry being as far as possible removed from the latter, **characterized** in that the drum (11) is driven at a circumferential speed such that a centrifugal acceleration which is higher than 600 times gravitational acceleration acts on the laundry.
2. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that, during the loading of the drum, the laundry is distributed as uniformly as possible onto the inner circumference of the drum (11).
3. Method according to Claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that loading is carried out with the drum (11) rotating, preferably at a speed which is reduced as compared with drainage.
4. Method according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the drum (11) is loaded in a position in which the drainage of the laundry also takes place, preferably with the longitudinal mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation of the drum (11) running approximately horizontally.
5. Method according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that, to unload the drained laundry, the drum (11) is pivoted into an unloading position, preferably by means of an oblique position of the longitudinal mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation with respect to the horizontal, the longitudinal mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation being inclined downwards in the direction of a loading and unloading orifice (18) of the drum (11).

6. Method according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that, after the loading of the drum (11), the rotational speed of the latter is increased quickly and continuously, in that, preferably, an electric motor (21) of a drive (15) of the drum (11) is operated with its maximum torque during the run-up of the rotational speed of the drum (11).

7. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry batch, the said drum being capable of being driven about an axis of rotation by means of a drive (15), the drum (11) having a preferably cylindrical surface area (20) which is at least partially liquid-permeable, **characterized** in that the drive (15) is designed to generate a pressing force corresponding to at least 600 times gravitational acceleration, for pressing the laundry against the inside of the surface area (20).

8. Device according to Claim 7, **characterized** in that the dynamic centre of gravity of the drum (11), in particular together with the rotatable parts of the drive (15), is arranged at least near the static centre of gravity of the drum (11) and preferably of the drive (15).

9. Device according to Claim 7 or 8, **characterized** in that the drum (11) is designed to be short in relation to the diameter and/or the drive (15) is of short design, in particular the drive (15) is assigned to the drum (11) in such a way that the static centre of gravity of the drum (11) and of the drive (15) is located in the region of the drum (11), in particular on the longitudinal mid-axis (17) of the latter.

10. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry batch, the said drum being

capable of being driven in rotation about a longitudinal mid-axis (17) by means of a drive (15), in particular according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the drum (11) can be pivoted
5 about a pivot axis (39) running perpendicularly through its longitudinal mid-axis (17).

11. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the pivot axis (39) runs
10 horizontally, and preferably the longitudinal mid-axis (17) of the drum likewise runs horizontally in the drainage and/or loading position of the latter.

12. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the pivot axis (39) is directly
15 assigned at least one pivoting drive (16) for pivoting the drum (11), the pivoting drive (16) being mounted directly at one end of the pivot axis (39) preferably on at least one axle stub (40).

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13. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry batch, the said drum being capable of being driven in rotation by means of a drive (15), the drum (11) having a preferably cylindrical
25 surface area (20) which is provided with a grid of liquid-permeable orifices, in particular according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that at least part of the cylindrical surface area (20) has a grid of orifices such that the area of all the orifices
30 amounts to at least 15% of the cylindrical surface area (20) of the drum (11).

14. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the orifices, preferably all the
35 orifices, are formed by preferably identical cylindrical passage bores (19) with a diameter of about 2 to 4 mm, in particular about 3 mm.

15. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the wall thickness of at least the cylindrical surface area (20) of the drum (11) amounts to 4 to 8 mm, preferably about 5 mm.

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16. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the spacings of the passage bores (19) with respect to their centre points (division) in the longitudinal and/or circumferential direction of the cylindrical surface area (20) of the drum (11) are approximately identical or different by a maximum of 10%, preferably amount to 0.3% to 1.0% of the diameter of the drum (11), in particular 0.5% to 0.8%.

15 17. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry batch, the said drum being capable of being driven in rotation by means of a drive (15), and with a plinth (14) carrying the drum (11) via a bearing stand (13), in particular according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the plinth (14) is designed at least partially as a storage tank for liquid removed from the laundry.

25 18. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the storage tank is designed for receiving at least the liquid quantity occurring during a drainage operation, preferably at least double the liquid quantity.

30 19. Device according to one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the storage tank is connected in a liquid-carrying manner to an outer drum (12) surrounding the drum (11), for intercepting the liquid separated from the laundry by the drum (11).